The Citywide Plan is also called the Plan of Conservation & Development.

- The **only** plan that covers the **entire city**
- State-required update every ten years for eligibility for discretionary state funding
- Under the jurisdiction of the Planning Commission
- The last plan was adopted in 2008.
State-required consideration of...

• Physical, social, economic and governmental conditions, needs, and trends
• Affordable housing and economic diversity
• Drinking water supply protections
• Energy efficient development patterns
• Renewable energy
• Sea level rise scenarios
• Land use and density
• State and regional Plans of Conservation & Development
• Consistency with the municipal coastal program to restore, protect, and reduce pollution in Long Island Sound

CGSCh. 126, sec. 8-23
When will the Citywide Plan be finished?

Winter-Spring 2018
• Workshops:
  • Community/neighborhoods and organizations
  • Topics/themes
• Open Houses

Summer-Fall 2018
• Public review
• Public hearings

CITYWIDE PLAN/POCD SCHEDULE

1. Existing Conditions
   August - November 2017

2. Community Visioning
   October 2017 - January 2018

3. Plan Development
   January - May 2018

4. Draft Plan and Review
   May - September 2018

5. Plan Presentation/Final Plan
   September - November 2018
Planning website: tomorrow.norwalkct.org
The Citywide Plan will be based on a community vision.

**IMAGINE**
- 20 Year Vision – what’s our shared vision for the entire city?

**PLAN**
- Goals to make the vision real
- Strategies to achieve the goals

**ACT**
- Ten year set of actions implement the strategies
The Big Picture: the pace of 21st-century change…

- Amazon: 1995
- Google: 2000
- iPod: 2005
- Facebook: 2010
- Google self-driving car project: 2015
- Netflix: 1995
- First warehouse robot company: 2000
- iPhone: 2005
- Kindle: 2010
- Twitter: 2010
The Big Picture: millennials in charge...

- 75% of the workforce by 2025
- Looking for choices in living, working, mobility, entertainment
WHO WE ARE

Growing
Aging…but in transition
Diverse
Norwalk’s population is growing.

- Estimated 88,438 people in 34,137 households
- Estimated average household size = 2.55
- 6th largest city in CT - growing faster than the state

Norwalk Population Trend

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>70,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>75,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>80,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>85,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011-2015</td>
<td>87,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020 (est)</td>
<td>90,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Stantec
Norwalk is aging…and making room for millennials.

- Median age
  - 2000: 37
  - 2016: 40
- Same as the county and the state
- Aging Baby Boomers
- Transition to millennials
Most Norwalk households have 1-2 people.

- 63% have 1-2 people
- 25% include persons 65+
- 29% include persons under 18

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Households by Type (2011-2016)</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Households</td>
<td>34,137</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total family households (related by blood, marriage, or adoption)</td>
<td>21,596</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--Married-couple family with own children</td>
<td>6,531</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total non-family households</td>
<td>12,541</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single person households</td>
<td>10,482</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
We are racially and ethnically diverse.

29% Hispanic/Latino (any race)
Immigrants account for most of the net gain in Fairfield County population in recent years.

In Norwalk

- 25% foreign born: about half are US citizens
- 85% are of prime working age (18-64)
- One-third have a BA or higher degree
- 35% (ages 5+) speak a language other than English at home
  - 21% of Norwalk residents are native speakers of Spanish
  - After Spanish, most common foreign languages are Creole, Italian, and Greek
Norwalk school district

- 84% four-year graduation rate; 75% enroll in college
- 2% special education
- 14% English Language Learners
- 44% eligible for free and reduced-price lunch
We are a little healthier than the state as a whole.

Health programs
• Healthy for Life
• NorWalker
• Fit Kids
• Growing Gardens, Growing Health
• Comenzando Bien (prenatal classes)
HOW WE LIVE

Housing types
Owning and renting
Housing values
Housing growth
Affordable housing
Over half of housing units are single family houses

Total 35,800 housing units

62% of all units are owner occupied

38% of all units are renter-occupied
Half of all housing was built before 1960.

Median year structure built: 1960
Housing sales and prices are rebounding (2008-2016)

Norwalk is more affordable than adjacent towns.
Median housing value ~ $410,000
New housing permits rise post-recession
Affordable housing in Norwalk

- 22% of households pay more than 50% of income in housing costs
- 12% of all housing units are below-market-rate (4,363 units)
- 18 public housing developments with 798 units for families and the elderly
- Workforce Housing ordinance: inclusionary zoning (10%)

Washington Village Transformation Plan: replacing 136 public housing units and adding 137 workforce and market rate units with federal funding
Development patterns and density follow history and infrastructure.

Interconnected street grid and smaller lots closer to the center in sewered areas.

Curved streets, cul-de-sacs, and larger lots at the city edges depending on septic systems.
Norwalk has limited protections for its historic sites and no historic preservation plan.

23 sites on the National Register of Historic Places

11 City-owned and managed historic properties

No local historic districts

Demolition delay ordinance for buildings at least 50 years old
A variety of parks and open spaces but no open space system plan
HOW WE PROSPER

Incomes
Job types in Norwalk
Residents’ job types
Poverty
Diversified economy and employment center

Approximately 45,000 jobs

No one employer accounts for more than 3.1% of jobs

Low unemployment rate (3.8% in August 2017)
Concentration of higher wage industries.
Top ten employers in diverse industries (2016).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Employer</th>
<th>Type of Business</th>
<th>Employees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City of Norwalk</td>
<td>Municipality</td>
<td>1,830</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norwalk Hospital</td>
<td>Health Services</td>
<td>1,534</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cablevision of CT</td>
<td>Cable installation</td>
<td>1,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Electric</td>
<td>Diversified manufacturing</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stew Leonard’s</td>
<td>Retail dairy/grocery</td>
<td>900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MBI</td>
<td>Direct Mail Marketing</td>
<td>800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diageo</td>
<td>Beverage Manufacturing</td>
<td>700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Datto Inc.</td>
<td>Data Protection Services</td>
<td>650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pepperidge Farm</td>
<td>Baked Goods</td>
<td>450</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
75% of Norwalk workers commute out of the city to work—Stamford, NYC, other CT
8.4% of all persons live below the federal poverty level

21% of all persons and 28% of children live in low-income households (less than twice poverty level) [2014 data]
GETTING AROUND THE CITY

Mobility
Multiple modes
Walking and Biking
Transportation assets can also be barriers to connection.

Two commuter rail lines and four stations

Arterials and regional, limited-access highways: I-95, Route 7, Merritt Parkway, Route 1

Limited bus network

2 cars per household average
Norwalk Walk Score = 49 out of 100

Annual street and sidewalk spending:
$6M on streets
$1M on sidewalks

Norwalk is car-dependent
Most errands require a car
Limited designated bike and pedestrian facilities
PUBLIC SERVICES AND SUSTAINABLE SYSTEMS

Public facilities
Water systems
Energy and sustainability
Climate change and resilience
Public facilities serve all parts of the city.

- Parks
- Schools
- Fire stations
- Police Station
- City Hall
- Public libraries
There are many recreation services but no recreation system plan.

Recreation Department maintains 1,215 acres
- 32 parks, 19 school sites, and other city owned property

Recreation fees go back to the general fund, ~$1.3 M annually.

Special facilities and events include:
- Dog Park
- Leagues
- Docks and marina
- Concerts and events
Separate taxing districts play different roles.

Separate political entities: First, Second, Third, Sixth

City entities: Fourth, Fifth

Property tax rates reflect mix of services from each district and the city

First, Second, Third TDs: operate utilities
Much of the city is sewered.

Water Pollution Control Authority manages the wastewater system and stormwater management system.

- Plant located in flood and storm surge zones; recently upgraded
- 180 miles of pipeline
- 22 pumping stations
- More than adequate capacity for future development.
Multiple water supply and electric systems

Drinking water supply sources:
- Silvermine River watershed
- 4 reservoirs in Wilton and New Canaan

Electric energy group:
- Connecticut Municipal Electric Energy Cooperative
- Renewable energy: opt in

- First Taxing District: water to Third, Fourth and Fifth Districts
- Second Taxing District: South Norwalk Electric and Water for sections of South Norwalk, East Norwalk, West Norwalk, Rowayton, Silvermine
- Third Taxing District: electric power for East Norwalk
- Private wells in some areas
The risks of the future are not the risks of the past.

More extreme storm events and precipitation

More and longer heat waves

Summer droughts

Sea level rise

Higher temperatures
Flood vulnerability will increase.

FEMA flood zones are based on historical data.

Sea level rise and extreme storms will increase flood risk.

Existing 1% annual risk means 26% likelihood of flooding during a 30-year mortgage period.

Harbor Plan is in place for the Coastal Area Management district.
Sea level rise plus storm surge = more vulnerability.

Hurricane Category 1 or 2 storm impacts:
- 2,036 parcels (78% residential or mixed use)

Hurricane Category 4 storm impacts:
- 3,219 parcels (77% residential or mixed use)
LAND USE AND PLACEMAKING
### Generalized Land Use

- **Residential - 1 or 2 family**: 57%
- **Residential - 3 or more family**: 5%
- **Mixed Residential/Commercial**: 1%
- **Commercial**: 9%
- **Industrial**: 2%
- **Government/Institutional**: 6%
- **Open Space**: 5%
- **Cemetery**: 1%
- **Other**: 7%
- **Utility**: 1%
- **Vacant**: 6%
- **Other**: 7%
- **Utility**: 1%
- **Vacant**: 6%
Land use and zoning patterns
Urban design framework

In redevelopment districts: Redevelopment Agency design review for South Norwalk, West Avenue, Reed Putnam, Wall Street

Limited general design review in Village Districts

No design review elsewhere in the city, such as Route 1

Different design standards in different places for public realm/streetscape
Brownfield sites

Redevelopment of older sites can involve environmental remediation. The city has received EPA site assessment funding.

Kellogg-Deering Wellfield Superfund Site:
- 10-acre municipal well field and adjacent site
- Long term remedial actions: wellhead treatment, source control, aquifer management
- Ongoing groundwater treatment and monitoring underway (most recent EPA review September 2017)
Selected major development projects

- SoNo Collection – 12 acres; 700,000 sf
- Connecticut Ave commercial sites
- Washington Village
- Waypointe mixed use
- The Pearl mixed use
- Many renovations
Selected Norwalk city and community initiatives

- Redevelopment Agency plans for Wall Street/West Ave
- Parking study
- Norwalk Now marketing support for downtown businesses
- Norwalk Tomorrow joint public participation website and initiatives
- Performance dashboard under development

- Norwalk ACTS – focus on schools
- South Norwalk Community Conversation
- Innovative Places Group for Wall Street – incubator space; Makers’ Guild
- Norwalk 2.0 – public art
The Norwalk Big Picture

Diverse....
- Population
- Economy
- Development patterns and neighborhoods
- Landscapes
- Something for everyone...

But fragmented....
- Urban and suburban
- Taxing district identities
- Strong neighborhood identities
- Weaker downtown
- Lack of system plans
- Economic divisions
SMARTPHONE POLL

1. Wifi access in the room: norwalkwifi1
2. Use your device to go to: stantec.cnf.io
3. Select the Norwalk poll

Smartphone and paper survey responses from the meeting are being recorded and will be reported as part of the meeting summary.
Live Content Slide

When playing as a slideshow, this slide will display live content

Social Q&A
Live Content Slide

When playing as a slideshow, this slide will display live content

Poll: Test: Are you...
Poll: How old are you?
Poll: What is your gender?
Poll: How do you describe yourself?
Poll: Are you Hispanic/Latino?
Poll: How long have you lived in Norwalk?
Poll: What part of Norwalk do you live in?
Poll: What kind of household do you live in?
Live Content Slide

When playing as a slideshow, this slide will display live content

Poll: Do you rent or own your home?
Poll: What is your household income range?
Live Content Slide

When playing as a slideshow, this slide will display live content

Poll: Where do you work?
Poll: How do you get to work?
Poll: How would you rate the overall quality of life in Norwalk?
Poll: What places do you most associate with the identity of Norwalk?
Poll: From your home, can you walk to a store, restaurant, service, school, park, or other city destination that you would like to go to?
Poll: Do you and your family feel safe bicycling in Norwalk?
Poll: How well do you know your neighbors?
Poll: How do you experience a sense of community in Norwalk?
Poll: In one or two words - if you could change one thing in Norwalk, what would it be?
Today’s activities

Assets and opportunities discussion
  • The best of the city/challenges facing the city

Visions, Values, Priorities
  • Personal visions
  • Share and discover commonalities
  • Top five vision elements or values

Small Groups report to the whole

Redevelopment neighborhood plan and parking study survey

RAFFLE!!